

Washington Merry-Go-Round by JACK ANDERSON



WASHINGTON — Watergate Special Prosecutor Leon Jaworski is quietly looking into the activities of Pat Nixon's cousin Edward Sullivan and his connection with the Nixon family's jewelry.

Sullivan, who was named to a cushy job on UNESCO's executive board by his famous in-law, former President Nixon, took custody of record books on the jewelry amid various probes into the Nixon family fortune.

The books had been meticulously maintained, complete with pictures and appraisals of the gems, at Washington's Shaw and Dussinger jewelers. On February 15, the day we revealed the existence of the books, Sullivan, an insurance man, hurriedly flew down from New York and hauled them off for safekeeping.

On August 5, after we told of Sullivan's trip, the special prosecutor's office began digging deeply into the case. Under assistant prosecutor Paul Mitchel, sleuths dropped by to talk with jeweler John Shaw. "They told me not to discuss it," Shaw politely told our associate Bob Owens.

Sources close to the special prosecutor's office are doubtful that Sullivan is in any trouble with the law. The Watergate investigators are intrigued, however, with the possibility that his three recent trips to Geneva might have something to do with rumored Nixon money in Swiss bank accounts.

But neither we nor the probers have any evidence that any such accounts exist, much less that Sullivan was a courier.

His attorney, Myles Ambrose, detailed for us each Geneva trip, one of which was a transit stop on his way to UNESCO headquarters in Paris. Ambrose said his client would cooperate fully with any investigators. "We have nothing to hide," said the attorney.

Though the prosecutors may not be interested in Sullivan personally, they are concerned over what he knows about the Nixon family finances and how this affects Nixon's taxes.

The large quantities of jewelry

belonging to Mrs. Nixon, her daughters and Nixon's secretary Rose Mary Woods have raised questions on where the money came to buy it.

For instance, there is testimony that some of the mysterious \$100,000 Howard Hughes gift to the Nixon campaign went to Rose Mary Woods. There are also allegations in the Senate Watergate committee report that in 1972 presidential friend Charles "Bebe" Rebozo used campaign funds to pay for a \$5,600 pair of earrings for Pat Nixon's birthday.

Sources close to the Nixons have now come up with an explanation which we sought at the time on the earrings but were unable to get from the White House. We are now happy to publish belatedly their version of the earring incident.

These sources say that Pat Nixon thought the earrings were a gift from her husband until she read in the newspapers that Rebozo had purchased them. The former President also thought he had paid for the jewelry out of his personal funds, White House friends say.

As they explained it, Nixon had done many generous and thoughtful favors for his friend Rebozo. Nixon had picked up the tab, for example, for trips that

the two men made together to Europe in 1965, around the world in 1966 and to South America in 1967.

Rebozo, wishing to repay the thoughtfulness, mentioned to a salesman for Harry Winston Jewelers, who was a longtime friend of the former First Family, that he would like to buy some nice jewelry for the Nixon women.

The opportunity came when the jewelers told Nixon's secretary, Rose Mary Woods, about some jewelry that had been selected for the former First Lady. Our sources say Miss Woods alerted Rebozo who sent a check for the earrings but never mentioned to the Nixons that he had paid for

them.

The President, meanwhile, had ordered jewelry as a birthday gift for his wife. He assumed, therefore, that the earrings were his own gift.

Rebozo paid for the earrings from a fund that had also been used to pay political bills. But Rebozo had shelled out about \$6,000 from his own pocket, according to our sources, for miscellaneous political expenses during the 1968 campaign.

Our sources say that \$6,000 of the campaign money, therefore, legitimately belonged to Rebozo. He was guilty, he felt, only of sloppy bookkeeping.

TOURIST TIMM: Civil Aeronautics Chairman Robert Timm's classic conflict of interest in junketing to Bermuda with the air industry chieftains he regulates has earned him

censure from House Commerce Chairman Harley Staggers, D-W. Va. Now we've caught Timm doing the same thing in Europe.

A few months ago, the tireless Timm whisked off to 11 European cities on a "business trip" paid for by the taxpayers. Some of his first week was spent playing golf in Portugal with TWA vice president Tom Taylor, whose secretary made Timm's travel arrangements. The vacationing Taylor then flew with Timm, his chief regulator, to Rome for a few days in the sun.

Timm flitted on to Copenhagen. But there the warm glow Timm gets from talks with major scheduled airline officials chilled when a rival "nonsked" executive tried to speak with him. The CAB chairman refused even to chat with the executive from the charter lines which he consistently votes against.

While Timm's tickets show he was traveling coach, he submitted a travel voucher to CAB for first class fares. His aides insist the boss was not trying to chisel on the difference in the fares. It was all a "mistake," one told us.

Footnote: We have discovered that Timm's trip to Bermuda was in part subsidized by Pan Am officials. Pan Am founder Juan Trippe, vice president Charles Trippe and another official, Ed Trippe, are principal owners of the hotel where he stayed. The entire air industry party and Timm, we are told, got special rates.